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Patent Docket No.: P99047US2A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Jamie J. McNutt, Nicole L. Squire, and William J. O'Briskie

Serial No.: 10/068,411 Filed: February 6, 2002

For: LARGE SIZED CARBON BLACK PARTICLES TO REDUCE NEEDED

MIXING ENERGY OF HIGH HARDNESS, STIFF TIRE COMPOSITIONS Art Unit:

1714

Examiner:

Wyrozebski-Lee

## REMARKS

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action, mailed October 29, 2003, Applicants submit remarks and request reconsideration of their application.

## Restriction

In the Office Action, the Examiner required under 35 U.S.C. §121 a restriction between the following groups of claims:

Group I Claims 1-15, drawn to a composition of a tire component, classified in class 524, subclass 495;

Group II Claim 16, drawn to a method of reducing energy when mixing rubber, classified in class 264, subclass 552.

Applicants affirm the election of the claims of Group I, with traverse, and reserve the right to pursue the unelected claims in divisional applications. Applicants

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:		
29 January 2001 Date	Signed	Mully Plany Meredith E. Palmer, Reg. No. 47,839